

Mr. Gallagher
9.4.900
PST: PSW
M. Gallagher: PST
Caulfield
Mr. Gallagher
6/4
This is an interesting
development.
AA 5/4

No 21

Ms. Anderson

Cookstown by-election

1. The SDLP's win in the Cookstown by-election on 29 March means that the Nationalist/Unionist breakdown in Cookstown District Council has reached 8:8 for the first time. It is a significant breakthrough for the SDLP and the Nationalist community generally in the area, given the manner in which the Unionists have exercised their control of the Council; the situation has been particularly difficult in recent years under the Chairmanship of the DUP's Alan Kane.
2. The vacancy on the Council had arisen as a result of the death of a DUP member. Nationalists have a majority in the electoral area in question (Ballinderry), but there were fears that the split vote between the SDLP and Sinn Féin would allow the only Unionist candidate - from the DUP - to take the seat. Sinn Féin supporters, however, transferred in sufficient numbers to enable the SDLP to secure the seat. The details were as follows:

<u>First Count</u>	W. McCormick (DUP)	2721	
	F. Rocks (SDLP)	1857	
	P. McAleer (Sinn Féin)	1705	
	McAleer eliminated.		
<u>Second Count</u>	Rocks	2927 (+1052)	
	McCormick	2748 (+27)	

3. The SDLP vote in Ballinderry has increased substantially in the last two elections. While their vote in the by-election was only some 100 up on its total in last May's local elections, it was roughly 1400 votes higher than their result in 1985. Interestingly, the Sinn Féin vote

in the by-election, while well down on what it was a few years ago, was an improvement on their result in 1989. This is being put down to McAleer's personal popularity in the area. He had topped the poll in Ballinderry in 1985 but had not stood in 1989. In that sense, the SDLP's victory is all the more meritorious. They had set as their priority in the campaign the need to convince Sinn Féin supporters to give Rocks their second preference. In the event almost 62% of Sinn Féin voters duly did so.

4. Denis Haughey (who, as you know, leads the SDLP team on the Cookstown Council) was understandably very pleased at the outcome. He himself stood as a candidate in Cookstown for the first time at last year's local elections and he has now seen the SDLP's representation in the Council go from 3 prior to last May to its present level of 6. They are now the leading party in the Council. The Cookstown result has no doubt boosted Mr Haughey's prospect of taking the Mid Ulster seat at the next Westminster election; the message that a split vote does not necessarily preclude an SDLP victory will, no doubt, not be lost on Nationalist supporters in Mid Ulster. Nor will it have gone unnoticed on the Unionist side; Mr Haughey told me that in his speech last Friday at the end of the count he told DUP MP Willie McCrea that they were now "going after" his seat - McCrea in response apparently "started jumping up and down" and had to be physically restrained!

5. The breakdown in Cookstown Council is now as follows:

SDLP	-	6
DUP	-	4
UUP	-	3

Sinn Féin - 2
Ind. Un. - 1

Technically, the DUP retain the chair, through the casting vote of the Chairman (and indeed can continue to do so at the next election to the Chair in June) but it means that there is now an extremely tight situation in place. The SDLP are in a position to put continuous pressure on Alan Kane and this they intend to do. The UUP are understood to have considered the idea of an 'arrangement with the SDLP last June but Kane is believed to have bullied them back into line. In the new situation, Kane's position has clearly been weakened, and the likelihood of another attempt at an accommodation between the UUP and the SDLP next June must now be very much in prospect.

ESC

T O' Connor

3 April 1990

Confidential - Immediate

45/2

Secure Fax - 045

26 April 1990

TO: Anglo-Irish Division
FOR: Anne Anderson

FROM: Belfast
FROM: Joint Secretary

1. Further to our conversations about the question of our Ministerial meeting with the SDLP and the British side's meeting with the Unionist parties, Mr. Alston came back to me this evening with a personal message for our Minister from the Secretary of State.

2. Mr. Brooke is very concerned at the prospect of a meeting between our Ministers and the SDLP next Tuesday. He stresses that it was his understanding with our Minister that the meeting with the SDLP would be held no sooner than a day before the British side's meeting with unionists (Mr. Brooke would, indeed, prefer that our meeting with the SDLP should take place after the meeting with unionists). The reason for the delay in giving us specific information is that the principle of a meeting has not yet been agreed by unionists and, until it is, a date and time cannot be set. The best estimate that can be given is, as I informed you earlier, that the meeting will take place at the end of next week or the beginning of the following week. Mr. Brooke very much hopes we will not go ahead with a meeting on Tuesday and asks that we defer arrangements for a meeting with the SDLP until he is in a position to tell us when he is meeting unionists. He has said he is quite prepared to telephone our Minister to discuss the matter with him personally.

3. I undertook to convey Mr. Brooke's personal message but I have repeated a number of points to Mr. Alston:

- we were told late on Tuesday evening that a meeting with unionists was expected in about a week and any

- 2 -

45/3

- arrangements with the SDLP would have been made in the light of that information;
- there was, in any event, a need to re-schedule a meeting with the SDLP which had been arranged for earlier this week but had been cancelled, (as Mr. Gallagher is aware, Mr. Brooke passed us a message before he knew of the cancellation expressing the fear that anything said by the SDLP could "blow the political talks out of the water");
 - we are under very strong pressure from the SDLP for a briefing in light of the speculation surrounding last week's Conference; and
 - could the British side ease their problem by bringing forward their meeting with the unionist parties?

In regard to the last point, Mr. Alston said that in the Secretary of State's judgement a meeting will not be possible by Tuesday/Wednesday next.

4. I have little doubt that Mr. Brooke will seek to contact our Minister personally if our answer is unsatisfactory from his point of view. In considering his message, I think, perhaps, the essential point is that an understanding was reached between Ministers last week that our meeting with the SDLP and the British meeting with unionists would take place at about the same time. While I recognise the difficulty and inconvenience involved, I would recommend, therefore, that our Ministerial meeting with the SDLP be postponed. If you agree with this response, I would propose to emphasise to Mr. Alston that the difficulty on our side must be recognised, given especially the schedules of the Taoiseach and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and that the earliest possible indication of arrangements for the meeting with unionists is essential to the understanding reached between Ministers last week.

45/4

- 3 -

5. You will have seen the reported remarks of the Secretary of State on political talks when he was door-stepped on Tuesday in Co. Down (transcript of RTE interview attached). The remarks gave rise to suggestions on RTE that Mr. Brooke would speak to unionists on behalf of the Irish Government. In this connection, I asked on Tuesday that the British side avoid any public claims that they are speaking for the Irish Government and I drew their attention to the Taoiseach's response to such a question at a press conference in London last Friday. As you know, the Taoiseach is reported in Saturday's Irish Times as saying that the (Irish) Government speaks for itself but he (Mr. Brooke) could certainly convey the impression to the parties in Northern Ireland that the Irish Government and himself are both very anxious for political progress and will facilitate it.

45/5

Eamonn Malley: Has the Irish Government given you an undertaking, you being Secretary of State, that it will in fact support you in whatever announcements you might in fact make?

SofS: We did in the Conference last week - we obviously had a substantial opportunity of discussing political development and I will be armed with a product of that conversation that I will be talking to them (Unionists) about.

Jim Dougal, RTE: The product of that conversation is that they (the Irish Government) will support you.

SofS: The product of that conversation is that we will have a position on which I will be responding to their (Unionist) pre-conditions and when they ask me questions about the Irish Government I hope I will be in a position to answer them.

Jim Dougal, RTE: Your not giving much away.

24-4-90

Remarks by the Broome.

PSS,

Meeting to brief SDLP on Intergovernmental Conference

1. As you are aware, there was agreement at last week's Conference that Mr. Brooke would brief the Unionists and the Taoiseach would brief the SDLP at around the same time. This was based on our understanding that Brooke would meet the Unionists very shortly - he indicated that he hoped to meet them before the end of the month.
2. We were informed through the Secretariat earlier this week that Brooke expected to meet the Unionists around the middle of next week. On that basis, and on checking with the Taoiseach's office and the Minister's office as to their availability, we indicated to Hume's office that Tuesday next might be a suitable date. Hume immediately confirmed that he would be available - along with Mallon, McGrady and Hendron - to come to Dublin on Tuesday morning.
3. When we conveyed these tentative arrangements through the Secretariat, the British reacted very strongly (fax attached). Their meeting with Unionists has apparently not yet been scheduled: they are waiting for the Unionists to come back to them with a definite date (possibly late next week or the following week) and they want us to postpone making any arrangements with the SDLP until such time as they have reached an arrangement with the Unionists.
4. Subject to diary considerations, it should not be too difficult to postpone the meeting with the SDLP for a day or two. However, I feel we should be very hesitant to accept the scenario suggested by the British for the following reasons:
 - The SDLP is of course extremely and understandably anxious to be briefed on the outcome of the Conference. They look to us - as representatives of the nationalist interest - to keep them informed.

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by Hume
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- Any significant delay in briefing them could give rise to suspicion or mistrust of us on the part of the SDLP. This serves nobody's interest (including the British).

 - To delay making any arrangement with the SDLP until such time as the Unionists choose to reply to Brooke gives a wrong signal - it suggests that Unionist sensitivities are the priority and SDLP acquiescence can be taken for granted. This is hardly the atmosphere in which we would want discussions to begin.

 - The implication of the British approach is that the SDLP cannot be trusted to observe the confidentiality of information. This is unfair and not borne out by experience during negotiation of the Anglo-Irish Agreement.
4. I would recommend therefore that we take a fairly strong line with the British and indicate that we want to reach a firm arrangement now with the SDLP for a meeting next week.

AA.

Anne Anderson

27 April 1990.

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Meeting with SDLP delegation

11 May 1990

Purpose of Meeting

1. The purpose of the meeting is to brief the SDLP on discussions to date concerning the prospects for political talks. The SDLP - somewhat unsettled by media speculation following the last Conference - will have been reassured by the Taoiseach's remarks in the Dail earlier this week that the suspension of the Conference and the removal of the Secretariat are not in question. However, the delegation will no doubt have a number of detailed questions as to precisely what gestures are envisaged to meet Unionist "pre-conditions" for talks.

2. The delegation will consist of Hume, Mallon, McGrady and Hendron (the same team as previously met Brooke). While tensions within the delegation are unlikely to surface at tomorrow's meeting, they undoubtedly - and perhaps inevitably - exist. Mallon and McGrady, in private conversation, are distrustful of Hume and extremely sensitive about what they perceive as Hume's tendency to exclude them from key decision-making. The two M. P. s themselves represent different tendencies within the party - with Mallon counselling a hard-line position in relation to any concessions to Unionists, and McGrady constantly returning to the theme that intransigence and inaction carry their own risks.

Presentation of Position to SDLP

3. The briefing might draw heavily on the "Note on Political Talks" - text attached - agreed at the last Conference. [It is for decision whether or not a copy of this Note should be shown to the SDLP. Given the extreme confidentiality of

the document, it might perhaps be preferable to have a copy available at the meeting which could be passed to the delegation but not actually left with them.]

4. Before going into the detail on the discussions to date, the Taoiseach and Ministers might wish to make some general introductory points

- there is absolutely no question of the Government putting the Agreement - and this of course includes the Conference and the Secretariat - at risk. The position was stated clearly in the Taoiseach's January statement: the Agreement will remain in place unless and until it is transcended by something better. Everything that is done will be consistent with that basic position;
- we have had protracted and detailed discussions with the Northern side on the basis for moving forward. We have developed a good relationship with the Secretary of State; however, we have repeatedly pointed out that we find it difficult to understand the basis for his optimism that progress may be within reach. Indeed, comments made by Molyneaux, in particular over the last couple of weeks, have confirmed our scepticism;
- nevertheless, if there is a genuine feeling that progress may be possible, then we obviously do not want to stand in its way - or indeed be seen to stand in its way. We have tried therefore to be as helpful as possible but within very clearly defined parameters. The SDLP can be reassured that the document we have agreed with the British ensures there is no room for ambiguity as to what is on offer from the two governments.

Text agreed between the two Governments

5. The SDLP delegation might then be taken in detail through the "Note on Political Talks". The contents might be summarised under the following headings: (a) "Gap"; (b) Format of talks (c) Secretariat.

(a) Gap

As regards the gap in Conference meetings, the key points are firstly, that it is a "natural" gap and, secondly, that it is of a fixed two month duration. There is a cast-iron agreement with Brooke that the Conference scheduled for the conclusion of the gap period will go ahead irrespective of developments at the political talks. [The SDLP may ask what our attitude will be if Unionists insist on this gap being described as an "unnatural" gap i.e. specifically created to allow talks to take place. The response might be that we have always spoken in terms of a "natural gap" and will continue to do so - however, if necessary, some phrase could be found to express the hope that the interval between Conferences would be used to facilitate dialogue; this might help to defuse any developing disagreement over whether the gap was natural or unnatural].

(b) Format

The format envisaged for talks is fully consistent with our emphasis - and the longstanding position of the SDLP - on the interdependence of the three sets of relationships (within the North, North/South, and East/West). The key point is that the three sets of talks will be "in unison" - i.e. within a day or two after the commencement of internal talks, the Government will be commencing talks with the Unionists and the SDLP on North/South relations.

The issue of the Dublin input into the internal Northern Ireland talks was a difficult one to handle: the device found - which we consider very satisfactory - is an official liaison group involving the two heads of the Secretariat. [The agreed document adds that the liaison group "could be expanded if the NI political parties wish to be represented": we might indicate to the SDLP that we would very much favour an expansion of the liaison group along these lines.]

(c) Secretariat

The SDLP can be reassured that the role of the Secretariat has been fully safeguarded. The two heads of the Secretariat would service the talks on North/South and East/West arrangements and would be members of the liaison group covering all three sets of talks. [The SDLP will have no difficulty with this (organic) link between the Secretariat and the servicing of talks - if anything, it strengthens the role of the Secretariat. McGrady may refer to Molyneaux's specific rejection of any such approach - at this stage, however, that is a matter for Brooke to tease out with Molyneaux]. An additional and key point is that "the remainder of the Secretariat would function as normal and there would be no question of suspending the Secretariat".

Where we go from here?

6. Much will depend, of course, on how Brooke's meeting with the Unionists goes (there may not be a decisive outcome since the Unionists seem to insist on approaching tomorrow's meeting as a preliminary and "exploratory" one). While the Northern side were talking in terms of the "natural gap" beginning after the next Conference (end May), there must be very considerable doubt as to whether sufficient ground can

be covered in the interim to enable this to happen.

7. The SDLP delegation - particularly Mallon - is likely to express considerable scepticism as to whether the Unionist leadership is serious about talks and also whether - if talks were to begin - there could be any likelihood of a successful outcome. The Taoiseach and Ministers might emphasise that we are fully alive to, and share, these concerns. For their part, the British have been suggesting that the Unionists are more accommodating in private than in public; this will obviously be proved or disproved over the next few weeks. As to what might emerge from talks, if they got going, a crucial factor would be the closest possible co-operation between the Government and the SDLP in articulating and advancing the nationalist position.

8. Finally, the Taoiseach and Ministers might refer to the confidentiality of these discussions between the Government and the SDLP: while the fact of the meeting taking place will, of course, be in the public domain, the details discussed will naturally remain private.

Other issues

9. It is possible that Hume will touch briefly on cross-border co-operation generally and in particular - in view of an editorial in today's Irish News strongly critical of recent remarks by Minister Brennan - on the Dublin/Belfast railway line. (The Northern side has been briefing the SDLP that Dublin is less than enthusiastic about Interreg - the Community Initiative under the Structural Funds designed to promote cross-border co-operation). The Taoiseach and Ministers might indicate that we are in fact working on the development of a ~~wide-ranging~~ programme to be submitted

under Interreg and will stay in close touch with the SDLP on the matter. On the railway, the Taoiseach and Ministers might indicate that the Department of Transport and Tourism is still examining the proposal - the project is hugely expensive and the financing options have to be carefully examined.

Anglo-Irish Division

10 May, 1990

cc: PST; PSM; Minister for Justice; Mr. Nally; PSS

CONFIDENTIAL

NOTE ON POLITICAL TALKS

(FINAL VERSION APPROVED BY MINISTERS)

The following reflects discussions between Ministers at a second tete-a-tete, 19 April, 1990.

The Secretary of State would continue bilateral talks with the constitutional political parties in Northern Ireland prior to the commencement of a two month "natural gap".

At the start of the gap the political parties would be brought together by the Secretary of State for the purpose of confirming the agenda for internal talks. The Irish side would be kept fully informed of the agenda.

The three sets of talks would begin immediately and in unison on internal, North/South and East/West arrangements. The North/South talks would begin a day or two after the commencement of the internal talks (allowing for the fact that participants would overlap) and East/West talks would begin a day or two thereafter.

The North/South talks would be between the Irish Government and the political parties. They would be without preconditions. It is assumed that the NIO would also be a party.

An official liaison group would be established to cover the 3 sets of talks. Dublin would use the liaison group for its input into the internal talks. The 2 heads of the Secretariat would service the talks on North/South and East/West arrangements. The liaison group would consist of the 2 heads of the Secretariat but could be expanded if the NI political parties wished to be represented.

The remainder of the Secretariat would function as normal and there would be no question of suspending the Secretariat.

Mr Brooke would seek the agreement of the political parties to these arrangements and there would be a meeting between Mr Brooke and Mr Collins before the commencement of the gap.

CONFIDENTIAL



SDLP

No 21

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Our ref: 077

17 May 1990

Mr Dermott Gallagher
Department of Foreign Affairs
2 St Stephen's Green
Dublin 2

Handwritten notes:
1376
cc
b-90
psm;
at willis; ACS
M. H. H. H.; M. P.
G. H. H. H.

Dear Dermott

Just a short note to inform you that we have opened a new full-time Constituency Office for West Belfast. It is located at 78 Andersonstown Road (Telephone 603008) and has two full-time members of staff:-

Moira Anderson (Office Manager)

Patricia O'Neill (Administrative Assistant)

It will be officially open to the public as and from 22nd May.

Le meas.

Yours sincerely



PATSY McGLONE
General Secretary

John Hume MP MEP
Party Leader

Seamus Mallon MP
Deputy Leader

Eddie McGrady MP
Chief Whip

Patsy McGlone
General Secretary

Mr. C. Carthy
Mr. 5-90

Mr. Keenan
2/15

2021

FAX

TO: HQ A/I

FROM: Irish Delegation
Rooms, E.P.
Strasbourg

FOR: A/S Galloway

FROM: McGrady

OUR FAX NO: 8837098X9

PAGES TO FOLLOW 3 + cover

Advance copy of press article by John Hume MEP which may appear in weekend press or in the "European". Obtained from author.

A NEW IRELAND IN A NEW EUROPE

By Mr. John Hume, MEP

Leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party

The major developments that have been taking place in Europe, the creation of the Single Market and now the drive towards European political union have all got profound implications for relations within Ireland, relations between Ireland and Britain and therefore what has become known as the Irish problem which today disfigures the North of Ireland.

Fifty years ago today the Second World War was in progress. Not for the first time in this century millions of people were to be slaughtered and cities right across Europe were to be devastated. The bitterness between European peoples had exploded once again into conflict and war. Difference for the Nth time in centuries was once again pushed to the point of division and the terrible price in human terms was again being paid. Once again nationality was more important than humanity.

If someone had stepped forth then and declared that in fifty years time all that would have changed and that we would be moving towards a united Europe, in which difference and identity would be respected, in which the French would still be French and the Germans would still be German, that person would have been described as a fool or a dreamer. But it has happened and it has profound lessons for areas of conflict everywhere, especially Ireland both parts of which are now part of the emerging unity of Europe. If the deep bitterness which separates peoples like the French and the German, a bitterness far deeper than that which divides the people of Ireland, could be laid aside, why cannot the Irish do likewise?

The peoples of Western Europe decided to leave the past behind, to work the common ground - largely economic- and to build institutions which would allow them to grow together at their own speed towards a new and united Europe that would not only respect difference and identity but would enhance its diversity. Can we in Ireland not do likewise and can both governments involved not declare that objective as their specific intention. If both parts of Ireland can build new relationships with Greeks, Germans, French, Italians all with whom we have much greater differences, can we not at least do the same with one another?

In any case, the forces of history and more importantly the forces of economics are all moving in that direction. In the Single Europe the border will be no more in real terms than a county boundary as goods, people and services move freely across it. This is already evident in areas like agriculture, tourism, energy and transport, all central to our economic future and all of which will be intensified when we become the offshore island of a united Europe, the only part that has no land link with the rest.

At a more fundamental level the roots and the nature of our problem have also changed. The Irish problem is European in its origins. In centuries prior to the Act of Union the Irish had very strong links with the rest of Europe and very many common interests. It was precisely that fear of those links that led to the colonisation of Ireland and to what has become known as the British presence.

The Battle of the Boyne was a major battle in a European war in which Dutch, Danes, Germans, French and English all fought. It was the links with Spain and 'O'Neill and 'O'Donnell that led to the Plantation of Ulster. It was the French invasion of Ireland in 1798 that led to the Act of Union. There is no doubt historically that the British presence in Ireland was a presence to defend her own interests both military and economic and to prevent Ireland being used as a back door by her European enemies. Indeed, to this very day the heart of the Provisional IRA campaign and the fundamental reasons given for it by the IRA are that Britain is in Ireland defending her interests by force.

All that has now changed. Both Britain and Ireland have now built and are continuing to develop new links with those same European countries. The world is now a smaller place. Sovereignty and independence, the issues at the heart of wars in Europe and the issues at the heart of the British-Irish quarrel have changed their meaning. The basic needs of all countries have led to shared sovereignty and interdependence as we move inevitably towards the United States of Europe and as we in Ireland rid ourselves of the obsession with Britain and rebuild our links with the rest of Europe.

Indeed with our identity of economic and cultural interests with many parts of that Europe we can become part of the European majority.

All of this is reflected in the new approach to British-Irish relationships dating from 1980 and leading to the Anglo-Irish agreement, the institutions of which - the Conference, the secretariat, the parliamentary tier - are all modelled exactly on the institutions of the European Community. None of that could have happened had the new European order not changed the roots and the nature of the British-Irish quarrel.

In recent times statements from leaders of Sinn Fein have given the impression that a serious debate is going on in their ranks about their methods and their objectives and they have indicated that they will not be found wanting if their statements are responded to. If all this is so, that debate should be encouraged towards the positive objective of ending all violence in Ireland. One way of encouraging such progress is to directly address their own stated reasons for what they call armed struggle and demonstrate that those reasons no longer exist.

There does remain one serious problem, a problem which is a direct consequence of our history and it is the deep division between the people who actually live on the island of Ireland. The Provisionals say that the people who are domiciled on the island of Ireland have the right to self-determination. What they don't seem to recognize is that those people are divided as to how that right is to be exercised and the search for agreement on how it is to be exercised cannot possibly be conducted by armed force. Here again if such agreements were to take the form of Irish unity the British government have made clear in Article 1 of the Anglo-Irish Agreement that they will not stand in the way. Irish unity is a matter for those Irish people who want it persuading those who don't. Are Sinn Fein and the IRA prepared to take up that challenge, lay down their arms and join in the difficult process of breaking down the barriers that actually divide the people of Ireland today? What is clear is that all the reasons that they give for their present method of dealing with the problems of Ireland no longer exist and this should be consistently pointed out particularly by the British Government.

As a beginning both governments should ^{state ?} that it is their intention to set up institutions in Ireland that will respect the identity and diversity of all the people of Ireland, that will allow them to work together in their common interest and to grow together over the generations at their own speed and Protestants will still be Protestants and Catholics will still be Catholics and Dissenter will still be Dissenter. Once the poison of distrust is extracted from the relationships, that growth could be quite surprising.

None of this should threaten in any way the fundamental interests of the Unionist people because today our common interests are far more important than our differences. Our very existence in Ireland North or South and the economic interests which underpin it are virtually identical in today's world, as already reflected by the common approach in Europe to those interests by representatives from both parts of Ireland. That common interest and approach can only intensify as the unity of Europe develops and unless we are successful the existence of our sons and daughters in Ireland, North or south will be threatened. They will emigrate.

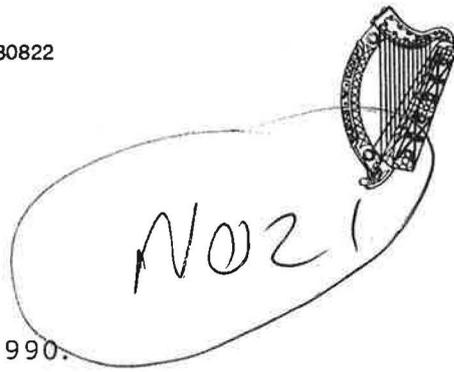
Following such a declaration by both governments, all of the relationships and matters affecting them should go on the table for discussion with the objective not only of agreeing institutions that will give expression to those relationships but of ensuring that it is all done by dialogue and agreement. In the end, the agreement, setting up the institutions upon which we agree to work our common interests together and to preserve our identity and differences, should be put to the people, North and South, for their approval requiring a majority in each part. That would reassure the Unionist people before we start that we mean what we say when we talk about agreement. And for Nationalists the agreement would not just require a mere majority of the Irish people but an overwhelming majority. Would that not be real self-determination?

In his speech to the European Parliament on European Political Union, the Irish President, Mr. Charles Haughey asked that Europe eliminates division but preserves difference. Can we do the same in Ireland? Will humanity transcend nationality in every corner of Europe including its offshore island?

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gairt }
Reference }



AN ROINN GNÓTHAÍ EACHTRACHA
Department of Foreign Affairs

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH 2
Dublin 2

21 May, 1990.

Mr. Dermot Nally,
Secretary to the Government,
Government Buildings,
Merrion Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Dermot,

*T M'Carthy (on leave)
M'Carthy,
Taoiseach will see Hume.
Hume & McCarter tomorrow at
4.30 p.m. I have told D.G. and
asked for a brief covering
(1) NW Shires
(2) 1992 Shires, and
(3) McCarter's.
2/55*

Conversation with John Hume re. Willie McCarter

John Hume telephoned last evening to say that he had spoken to the Taoiseach at the Cardinal's funeral in Armagh about the possibility of his visiting Donegal in the near future to perform the official opening of McCarter's Fruit of the Loom plant there. Hume apparently suggested that, in order to best advance this possibility, McCarter and he might call on the Taoiseach in the near future. Hume would now like to suggest that, if this is suitable for the Taoiseach, he and McCarter might call on him tomorrow afternoon (about 4.30 or 5.00 pm).

The McCarter factories (Buncrana, Raphoe and Malin Head) now employ 2,650, which must make them one of the biggest manufacturing companies in the country. They have also recently announced their intention to open a branch in Derry city. According to Hume, planned expansion by the Company will include the creation of 3,000 more jobs, and McCarter would be more than happy for the Taoiseach to make the announcement about this expansion during his visit to Donegal.

Yours sincerely,

Dermot Gallagher,
Assistant Secretary.

4-7 July

CONTINUED ON PART N.

19003M

PRESS CUTTINGS TO
BE HELD WITH
MAIN FILE.

No. 21

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~~19003M~~ → ~~22 April 1990~~

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2/1/89 - 22/4/90

***Newspaper
article(s)/cutting(s)
have not been copied***

Extract from Official Report of Debates

Date 21-22 March 1990Vol 397 No 3Cols 564-565

563

Questions—

21 MARCH 1990.

Oral Answers

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[Mr. Dukes.]

give the information to the House, what kind of aircraft has been allocated the number 255?

The Taoiseach: I want to reassure the Deputy, if he needs reassurance, that the Government have one Gulf Stream jet, they have no other Gulf Stream jets in contemplation, and they do not intend to have another Gulf Stream jet. One Gulf Stream jet is quite enough for us. I find it impossible to fly in two aeroplanes at the same time.

Mrs. Taylor-Quinn: The Minister for Defence can fly five helicopters at the same time.

The Taoiseach: I suggest to the Leader of the Opposition that he desist from these trivia.

Discovery of Historical Objects.

2. **Mrs. T. Ahearn** asked the Taoiseach if any appropriate decision or proposals have been made with a view to introducing legislation dealing with the discovery of historical objects, such as the Derrynaflan hoard, as urged by the Chief Justice in his decision on a case (details supplied); and if no such proposals are forthcoming, when it is proposed to introduce legislation on this matter on the lines suggested by the Supreme Court in the case concerned.

The Taoiseach: Work is how well advanced in drafting the heads of appropriate legislation to deal with this very complex issue and I would hope to bring forward the proposed legislation later this year.

Mrs. T. Ahearn: At the outset I should like to pay tribute to Mr. Michael Webb and his son who, on finding the Derrynaflan Chalice speedily handed it over to the State. I should like to ask the Taoiseach if, with a view to strengthening the Government's claim on such finds, he will introduce some system of arbitration so that people will be happy with the

reward or compensation they receive for such finds?

The Taoiseach: I thought the Deputy was on to a different point in her question, the need for legislation to deal with the whole area of the right to these objects when they are found, particularly the right of the State in regard to them.

Mrs. T. Ahearn: Will the proposed legislation cover the question of a reward or compensation? If we do not have realistic rewards for the finders, they will seek a reward or compensation through illegal exporting.

The Taoiseach: I see the Deputy's point. Yes, of course it will deal with that issue. I hope the Deputy gets an opportunity to raise her question about nurses on the Adjournment.

Meeting with SDLP.

3. **Proinsias De Rossa and Tomás Mac Giolla** asked the Taoiseach if he will outline the purpose of his recent meeting in Dublin with representatives of the SDLP; if any new initiatives or developments are expected as a result of these talks; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

The Taoiseach: Meetings take place periodically between the Government and the SDLP as part of an ongoing process of consultation, which both sides consider important and useful. The most recent such meeting was on 8 March in Dublin; the discussion on that occasion covered a range of issues of mutual interest, including the current political situation in Northern Ireland, confidence issues and the development of cross-Border economic co-operation.

Proinsias De Rossa: Will the Taoiseach outline any proposals that might have been put to him, or any proposals he made to the SDLP with regard to having talks develop in Northern Ireland?

The Taoiseach: No, it was not that kind

of meeting. Neither side was putting forward any particular proposals.

Proinsias De Rossa: Will the Taoiseach indicate if he encouraged the SDLP to engage in talks in Northern Ireland with a view to establishing a form of devolved government in Northern Ireland?

The Taoiseach: No, it would not be for me to do that.

Proinsias De Rossa: I should like to ask the Taoiseach if the SDLP outlined to him any conditions which they felt were necessary before talks could take place.

The Taoiseach: No again. I do not think that would necessarily be part of our discussions. On these occasions we have a general, comprehensive all round type of discussion on current events and an exchange of views on different issues. That is the form these meetings take.

An Ceann Comhairle: Question No. 4 is postponed. We come now to deal with questions nominated for priority. There are five questions nominated for priority on the Order Paper and under Standing Orders they must be disposed of within 15 minutes. I seek the co-operation of all concerned towards that end.

TB Testing.

5. **Mr. Connaughton** asked the Minister for Agriculture and Food if he accepts that previous round testing for TB under the disease eradication scheme over many years has left vast numbers of unidentified reactor animals on Irish farms; his views on the recent ERAD statement that there will be as much as an extra 10,000 reactors above last year's level identified in the current year; the cost of such an increase; and the way in which he proposes to fund the scheme.

Minister for Agriculture and Food (Mr. O'Kennedy): I understand from the director of ERAD that the results of a statistically randomised sample of the national herd which was tested by ERAD

veterinary inspectors in 1989 indicated a higher level of disease than emerged from the annual programme of testing. He anticipates that at least 50,000 reactors will be identified and removed this year. By comparison, 43,385 reactors were removed during 1989.

An increase in the number of reactors of this order would cost about £2.5 million in reactor grants. The financial implications of the ERAD programme for 1990 will be considered by the Government.

Mr. Connaughton: I should like to welcome the Minister back to the House. It is good to see him looking so well. I suggest to the Minister that this is an appropriate time to let the Offaly farmers out of jail. The rule of law has been upheld very vigorously and the Minister for Justice should look on these cases sympathetically and allow those people out to do their farming on a fine spring day in County Offaly.

An Ceann Comhairle: The Deputy is expanding the scope of the question.

Mr. Connaughton: Jail is no place for those farmers. Their case has been adequately put. Will the Minister tell the House why there will be almost 10,000 reactors? Will he accept that over the past couple of years a similar number of diseased animals were left on Irish farms unidentified? Why were they left on farms?

Mr. O'Kennedy: The Deputy will be aware that we gave priority to introducing comprehensive round testing in 1987. The establishment of ERAD to which the Deputy referred was a major factor in taking out reactors. The fact that it was set as a target by the board of ERAD would ensure, to the maximum extent possible, with the co-operation of the farmers, whose co-operation is vitally necessary, and of the veterinary practitioners, that the level and incidence of reactors would be scrutinised in a very strict fashion. All of those factors, plus

QUESTION NO: 3

DÁIL QUESTION addressed to the Taoiseach
by Deputies Proinsias De Rossa and Tomás
MacGiolla for oral answer on Wednesday 21st
March, 1990.

QUESTION:

To ask the Taoiseach if he will outline the purpose of his recent meeting in Dublin with representatives of the SDLP; if any new initiatives or developments are expected as a result of these talks; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

REPLY:

Meetings take place periodically between the Government and the SDLP as part of an ongoing process of consultation, which both sides consider important and useful. The most recent such meeting was on 8th March in Dublin; the discussion on that occasion covered a range of issues of mutual interest, including the current political situation in Northern Ireland, confidence issues and the development of cross-border economic cooperation.

Department OF THE TAOISEACH

To be dealt with **IMMEDIATELY** and not placed with other papers.

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION

To be answered on: Wednesday, 21st March, 1990.

Regd. No.	Put down by: Deputy Proinsias De Rosca.	Question	
	Description:		
<p>To ask the Taoiseach if he will outline the purpose of his recent meeting in Dublin with representatives of the SDLP; if any new initiatives or developments are expected as a result of these talks; and if he will make a statement on the matter.</p>			
Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date

Mr Mc Carthy

20/3/90

Secretary to

20.3.90

the Government

Taoiseach

20/3

Mr De Rosca

21/3

Mr Mc Carthy

21/3

Possible Supplementaries

If the Taoiseach is pressed in supplementaries about "new initiatives or developments.....as a result of these talks" (with the SDLP), he could perhaps respond along the following lines:

"The question of new initiatives does not arise; these discussions were, as I have said, part of an ongoing, process of consultation between the Government (and indeed other parties in the House) and the SDLP, which all sides find useful and beneficial".

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→ M. cc DFA

Note for the Taoiseach's information

1. The meeting referred to by Deputy De Rossa in his question took place on Thursday, 8th March, 1990. The S.D.L.P. delegation, consisting of Mr. John Hume, Mr. Denis Haughey and Dr. Joe Hendron, also met the leaders of Fine Gael and the Labour Party.
2. There appears to have been no report of the meeting in the Southern newspapers but both the Belfast Telegraph and Irish News carried articles on Friday, 9th March and copies are beneath.
3. The draft reply across has been suggested by the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Belfast Telegraph - 9th March, 1940

SDLP outlines plans for inter-party talks

By
Michael Devine

THE SDLP's strong
opinion with the
Government on the future of
Northern Ireland was out-
lined by the Taoiseach, Mr
Charles Haughey, and other
political leaders in
the Republic at a meeting in
Dublin yesterday.

The SDLP delegation
was led by the party
leader, Mr John Hume,
who was accompanied by
senior party figures, Mr
Denis Haughey and Mr Joe
Henderson.

They had discussions
with Mr Haughey and the
Minister for Foreign
Affairs, Mr Gerry Collins,
and separate meetings with
the leader of Fine Gael,
Mr Alan Duker, and the
leader of the Labour Party,
Mr Denis Spring.

Mr Hume said that
the meetings were a
regular dialogue with the
Government in the
Dail, and that they were
in opposition to the
Government.

He said that the SDLP
hoped that the objectives of
the Secretary of State, Mr
Brooke, of the British
Government, would be
achieved.

He said they outlined
the Taoiseach and the
Government's party
policy, and that they
believed that the
Government's agenda for
the Dail was not
adequate, and that the
Government were as anxious
to break that the
Government.

We noted that the SDLP
delegation engaged in talks
with Mr Brooke gave him
hope that it would not be
too long before they would
engage in dialogue with
the Government.

Haughey and Hume debate talks hopes

THE TADISEACH Charles Haughey yesterday had discussions with SDLP leader John Hume about the possibility of political progress in the North and cross-border economic co-operation.

Mr Hume was in Dublin for a day of talks with Mr Haughey and other party leaders.

The SDLP leader was accompanied by Dr Joe Hendron, chairman of the SDLP, Conal Caserley, Sinn Féin representative, and Mr Denis Haughey, International Secretary.

The main subject on the agenda was the 'common ground' initiative by Northern Ireland Secretary Peter Brooke in trying to bring the constitutional parties to the negotiating table.

The SDLP has however so far been unable to identify any real sign of forward movement by the Unionists. The party remains opposed to any suspension of the Anglo-Irish Agreement, as does the Haughey administration.

The Irish Government, for its part, has recently reiterated its commitment to continuing to work the Agreement fully unless and until it is superseded by a new and more comprehensive arrangement.

Regarding economic co-operation the SDLP yesterday underlined its view that there are very many areas in which a joint strategy by both governments can be of great benefit to the whole island.

By
WILLIAM GRAHAM
Political Correspondent

An even stronger joint approach to the Single European Market of 1992 has been argued for by the SDLP.

Mr Hume said that the talks yesterday were part of the SDLP's regular and ongoing discussions with the government and parties in the Republic.

He with with the Taoiseach Mr Haughey and the Foreign Affairs Minister Gerry Collins at another meeting had discussions with Fine Gael leader Alan Dukes and his Foreign Affairs spokesman Peter Barry; and later met the Labour Party leader Dick Spring, Ruairi Quinn and Liam Kavanagh.

"We discussed the situation in the North and the prospect for talks — and everyone hopes that these talks will take place," Mr Hume said.

Mr Hume added: "We also discussed the economic situation particularly in relation to the joint government proposals for cross-border areas. We have submitted proposals to both governments on this question."

The SDLP leader was asked for his views on the decision by Official Unionist Mr Ken Maginnis and the McGimpsey brothers to seek a meeting with Mr Haughey relating to the Dublin Supreme Court judgement and Articles 2 and 3 of the Constitution.

Mr Hume replied that he

• To Page Two

Haughey, Hume meet for talks

• From Page One

would encourage Unionists to discuss any matters they concerned them with the government in Dublin.

"I would welcome discussion on any subject and we have already said that the Unionists should sort out their relationship with the rest of the island to their and everyone's mutual benefit," Mr Hume said.

Mr Hume leaves for the United States on a trade mission tomorrow. He will be in Massachusetts and Connecticut meeting leaders of American companies to talk about investment in the North.

These meetings have been arranged by Senator Edward Kennedy and Senator Deed.

Mr Hume said he was continuing with his efforts in which he had embarked during the last couple of years in talking to US companies through the good offices of his political friends in America.

He is arguing the case for US investment in the North

and the attraction of it as a marketplace for American companies particularly as the Single European Market of 1992 approaches.

Significantly, Economy Minister Mr Richard Needham will also be in the US next week and will be accompanying Mr Hume during his meeting with industrialists.

"The task of persuading outside investment in Northern Ireland is not an easy one but I believe that direct contact through my political contacts in the States is the best way of doing so; and also in persuading industrialists to come over here and have a look for themselves," Mr Hume said.

Later in the week Mr Hume will be having his regular meetings with the Speaker of the House of Representatives Mr Tom Foley, Senator Kennedy, Congressman Connolly and the Friends of Ireland group in the US Congress.

Irish News

9/3/90



AN ROINN GNÓTHAÍ EACHTRACHA

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH 2

DUBLIN 2

6 March, 1990.

Mr. Dermot Nally,
Secretary to the Government,
Government Buildings,
Merrion Street,
Dublin 2.

Mr. J. Hume
9-3 26
9/3

Dear Dermot,

This is to confirm the meeting with the SDLP for Thursday, 4.30pm. The Party will be represented by John Hume, Joe Hendron, Denis Haughey and Séan Farren (Mallon and McGrady are in the States).

8/3/90

They will be seeing Fine Gael and the Labour Party in advance of the Government.

Yours sincerely,

J. Ellison

PP Dermot Gallagher,
Assistant Secretary.

Mr. *Mr. J. Campbell*

9

14. 3. 90

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For ORAL answer on Wednesday 21st March, 1990.

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by Deputy Proinsias De Rossa for answer
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Mr Keenan

Suggested reply.

RD 20/3
2:40

Secretary to the Government.

[Signature]

20-3-1990

Taoiseach

54
20/3

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